

**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

1516 NINTH STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512



January 22, 2002

Ms. Alicia Torre  
Calpine Corporation  
4160 Dublin Boulevard  
Dublin, CA 94568

Dear Ms. Torre:

**RE: EAST ALTAMONT ENERGY CENTER FIFTH SET OF DATA REQUESTS**

Pursuant to Title 20, California Code of Regulations, section 1716, the California Energy Commission requests the information specified in the enclosed data requests. The information requested is necessary to: 1) more fully understand the project, 2) assess whether the facility will be constructed and operated in compliance with applicable regulations, 3) assess whether the project will result in significant environmental impacts, 4) assess whether the facilities will be constructed and operated in a safe, efficient and reliable manner, and 5) assess potential mitigation measures.

This fifth set of data requests (#142-152) is being made in the areas of cultural resources and hazardous materials. Written responses to the enclosed data requests are due to the Energy Commission staff on or before February 22, 2002, or at such later date as may be mutually agreed upon.

If you are unable to provide the information requested, need additional time, or object to providing the requested information, please send a written notice to the Committee and me within 10 days of receipt of this notice. The notification must contain the reasons for the inability to provide the information or the grounds for any objections (see Title 20, California Code of Regulations, section 1716 (f)).

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed data requests, please call me at (916) 657-4394.

Sincerely,

Cheri L. Davis  
Energy Facility Siting Project Manager

Enclosure

cc: Docket (01-AFC-4)  
Proof of Service List

**EAST ALTAMONT ENERGY CENTER PROJECT  
DATA REQUESTS  
(01-AFC-4)**

**Technical Area: Hazardous Materials**

**Authors:** Dr. Alvin Greenberg

**BACKGROUND**

The AFC (page 8.12-17) indicated that the applicant would prepare a cumulative impacts analysis assessing acutely hazardous materials stored or used at current and proposed projects within a 5-mile radius of the project that could potentially contribute to cumulative impacts. This analysis would assess the potential impacts from a simultaneous release from other acutely hazardous material storage tanks and the proposed EAEC ammonia storage tank, assuming that the migrating clouds merged.

**DATA REQUESTS**

142. Please provide the cumulative impacts analysis as described in the AFC.

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**Technical Area: Cultural Resources**

**Authors:** Roger Mason and Dorothy Torres

**NOTE: Please submit any information that may reveal archaeological site location under confidential cover.**

**BACKGROUND**

Western Area Power Administration has previously requested that a geotechnical report be completed for the project. This report is necessary to determine whether there are archaeological resources that may be impacted and where those resources are located. Western must identify impacts before recommending mitigation. A geotechnical report was previously submitted that did not address the potential for buried archaeological deposits. The applicant has agreed to provide this report and the purpose of including the request in this document is to ensure that the request is part of the record and that there is no misunderstanding concerning the information that is required.

**DATA REQUEST**

143. Please provide a geoarchaeological or geomorphological evaluation of the project including the linear components. Discuss the potential for buried intact archaeological deposits by assessing the age of soils, rate of deposition/erosion, slope, and presence of known buried sites. It is necessary that a geoarchaeologist or geomorphologist do the work. Geologists and archaeologists do not have the necessary expertise to provide the required information.

**BACKGROUND**

Western also previously requested a rewrite of the cultural section from the AFC to fulfill State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) requirements. In order to fulfill Section 106 requirements the lead federal agency must submit this report to the SHPO, which will not accept a report that does not meet their requirements. Western has provided a format for this report. The applicant has previously agreed to provide this report. The data request is included to ensure that a formal request is part of the record and to ensure that there is no misunderstanding regarding the information that is required

**DATA REQUEST**

144. Please provide the previously requested report, using the format provided by Western.

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**DATA REQUESTS**  
**(01-AFC-4)**

**BACKGROUND**

Staff has recommended a segment of The Delta Mendota Canal and The Westside Irrigation District as eligible to both the National Register of Historic Places and the California Register of Historic Resources.

**DATA REQUEST**

145. Please provide a detailed discussion of all potential ground disturbance and construction activities within 100 feet of these historic resources. If boring or trenching will be used, address the dimensions of any pits or trenches.

**BACKGROUND**

The Bureau of Reclamation has expressed concern regarding construction activities in the vicinity of canals, aqueducts or other facilities under their jurisdiction.

**DATA REQUEST**

146. Please verify whether a permit or some other type of legal agreement is necessary to construct within their right-of-way or area of responsibility.

**BACKGROUND**

In the first round of data requests, staff requested the applicant to obtain from local cities and counties lists of cultural resources from local cities and counties that have been found to be historical under a local ordinance. The applicant has provided a list for Contra Costa County.

**DATA REQUEST**

147. Please provide additional lists for Alameda and San Joaquin Counties. If contacts have determined that there are no lists, please provide documentation of the source of the information.

**BACKGROUND**

Letters were sent to representatives of the Native American community that provided information about the project. In order to determine whether all concerns raised by Native American have been addressed and to adequately identify all potential resources, staff needs the following information.

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**DATA REQUEST**

148. Please provide copies of any responses received by mail from Native Americans. If a response was received by telephone, please provide a written summary of the conversation.

**BACKGROUND**

The PG&E Distribution Line (#7 in PAR's historic evaluation forms) is in the area of potential effect and under the National Environmental Policy Act needs to be considered regarding impacts. An evaluation of this line is essential to the impact analysis. This 60kV line is more than 50 years old, a portion of the project will cross under it and power poles may need to be replaced.

**DATA REQUEST**

149. Please provide an evaluation of this cultural resource completed by an historian who meets the Secretary of the Interior Standards in architectural history, historic architecture, industrial history or public history. The evaluation should include an historic context sufficient for evaluating the resource. Complete DPR 523 forms A through L as appropriate and provide copies. As part of the evaluation, please address the following questions:
- a. Was this the first or longest 60kV line in California?
  - b. Where does this line fit into electric development, in California, in the United States?
  - c. What entity provided power for the West Side Irrigation District? Was it this PG&E distribution line?
  - d. Will any power poles on this line need to be replaced.

**BACKGROUND**

It appears that the Tracy Pumping and Switching Stations (PAR historic resource #11) may have contributed to the history of the Delta Mendota Canal which has been recommended as eligible to the California Register of Historic Resources.

**DATA REQUEST**

150. Please provide an evaluation of this cultural resource completed by an historian who meets the Secretary of the Interior Standards in architectural history, historic architecture, industrial history or public history. Ensure

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that an historic context is provided that is adequate for evaluating the resources. Evaluate the Pumping Station and Switching Stations separately, complete DPR 523 forms A through L, as appropriate for each historic resource and provide copies. As part of the evaluation, please address the following questions.

- e. Are the pumping and/or switching stations an integral part of the Delta Mendota Canal? If appropriate, consider each as part of the Delta Mendota Canal rather than as a separate resource. Explain the choice of assessing it separately or as part of the canal.
- f. Please discuss the character defining elements and how much the new construction changes the integrity of the resource?
- g. Photos included in the PAR DPR 523A indicate that transmission yards and transmission towers dominate the station area. Please provide a discussion of the transmission yards, their age and how they relate to the pumping and switching stations.

**BACKGROUND**

It appears that the reclaimed water line may impact the previous location of the town of Wicklund.

**DATA REQUEST**

- 151. Per our discussion at the PSA Workshop, if available, please provide any cultural resources reports concerning the Wicklund site completed for other projects in progress in the area. If not available, please provide a test plan to identify site boundaries.
- 152. If archeological deposits are identified in the project area, please provide in the report a discussion of the significance of the site under CEQA Section 15064.5 (a) (3) (A)-(D), including the research values that are contained in the deposits and the associated research questions that could be answered through data recovery.